

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the Abstract in the present specification with the following Abstract.

~~A method of queuing variable~~ Variable size incoming data packets are queued by ~~in a communication system comprises generating from an~~ each ~~incoming~~ data packet a record portion of predetermined fixed size and containing information about the packet, ~~the~~ Data portions of the packets ~~data in the packet being in a data portion~~ are stored; ~~storing data portions in independent memory locations in a first memory 24 while~~ with ~~each data portion having no connection with any other; storing the~~ record portions are stored in one or more managed queues in a second memory 3 having fixed size memory locations matching ~~equal in size to the size of the record portions,~~ ; ~~wherein:~~ The first memory 4 ~~is larger and has a lower address bandwidth than the second memory,~~ ; ~~and the~~ The memory locations in the first memory are arranged in blocks having ~~a plurality of~~ two or more different sizes, ~~and the memory locations are allocated to the data portions according to the size of the data portions. Conveniently, there may be two sizes of memory location in the first memory arranged in two blocks, one of a size to receive relatively small data portions and the other of a size to receive relatively large data portions. Data portions that are too large to be stored in a single memory block are stored as linked lists in a plurality of blocks with pointers pointing to the next block, but without any pointers pointing from one data portion to the next data portion of the packet. The memory locations in the blocks are preferably matched to the most commonly occurring sizes of data packets so that nearly all packets are stored in one respective location.~~ in the communication system. The memory locations in the first memory are preferably allocated from a local pool 6 of available addresses ~~provided to it in batches from a central pool 7 of available addresses.~~

[Fig 2]